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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/748,663

12/31/2003

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0026-0063

2794

44989 7590 10/04/2007
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EXAMINER

AHLUWALIA, NAVNEET K

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2166

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

10/04/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/748,663

Applicant(s)

BHARAT ET AL.

Examiner

Navneet K. Ahluwalia

Art Unit

2166

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 August 2007.
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 23-31, 39-45 and 47-68 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 23-31, 39-45 and 47-68 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 08/21/2007 has been entered.

Response to Arguments

2. Claims 23 – 31, 39 – 45 and 47 – 68 are pending in this Office Action. After further search and thorough examination of the present application, claims 23 – 31, 39 – 45 and 47 – 68 remain rejected.
3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 23 – 31, 39 – 45 and 47 – 68 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

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5. Claims 23 – 31, 39 – 45 and 47 – 68 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wittke et al. ('Wittke' herein after) (US 2004/0059705 A1) further in view of Miyasaka et al. ('Miyasaka' herein after) (US 6,990,633 B1) and Allen Yu ('Allen' herein after) (US 20030009497 A1).

With respect to claim 23,

Wittke discloses a method comprising: receiving a plurality of search queries from a user; creating a customized news document including a plurality of personalized news sections (paragraph 260), with each news section being defined by a different one of the plurality of search queries receiving an indication from the user specifying a number of news items to include in at least one of the plurality of personalized news sections, retrieving items of news content from memory using the plurality of search queries (figure 19); and inserting selected items of news content of the retrieved items of news content corresponding to the specified number of news items into the at least one of the plurality of the personalized news sections of the customized news document (paragraphs 281 and 325).

Wittke does not explicitly disclose the division of the document and the personalization in detail as claimed.

Miyasaka however teaches the division of the news document as claimed (column 13 lines 26 – 40). Furthermore, Allen teaches the personalization along with the aggregation of the news in paragraphs 52, 55 – 57.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art of data processing at the time of the present invention to combine the teachings of cited references because both the inventions are in the same field of personalizing aggregations of information. Furthermore, obtaining preferences of a recipient that include an indication of one or more preferred categories, a preferred presentation layout, and a preferred advertising category; obtaining content information having content in at least one of the preferred categories; and personalization with aggregation would provide the user with relevant information without the unnecessary information or advertisements (column 2 lines 25 – 34, Miyasaka). Furthermore the specified aggregation and personalization of Allen's method would give better accurate and efficient results to the user for the personalized news queried for (paragraphs 52, 55 – 57, Allen).

6. Claims 24 – 30, 68 are rejected under the same rationale given for claim 23. The citations of the elements claimed and taught are listed below.

With respect to claim 24,

Wittke as modified discloses the method of claim 23, further comprising: retrieving updated items of news content from the memory using the plurality of search queries; and periodically inserting the selected items of news content of the updated items of news content corresponding to the specified number of news items into the at least one of the plurality of the personalized news sections of the customized news document (paragraphs 371 and 378, Wittke).

With respect to claim 25,

Wittke as modified discloses the method of claim 23, wherein the items of news content are retrieved from a plurality of news source servers and aggregated via a news aggregation service in the memory (figures 19 and 20, paragraph 291, Wittke).

With respect to claim 26,

Wittke as modified discloses the method of claim 25, wherein the customized news document is hosted at a news aggregation server that further hosts the news aggregation service (figures 19 and 25, Wittke).

With respect to claim 27,

Wittke as modified discloses the method of claim 25, wherein the customized news document is hosted at a server that is remote from a news aggregation server that hosts the news aggregation service (figures 19 and 31, Wittke).

With respect to claim 28,

Wittke as modified discloses the method of claim 23, further comprising: notifying the user of the updated items of news content (paragraph 342, Wittke).

With respect to claim 29,

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Wittke as modified discloses the method of claim 28, wherein notifying the user of the updated news items of content comprises notifying the user via at least one of a page, an e-mail, a FAX, and a telephone call (paragraph 342, Wittke).

With respect to claim 30,

Wittke as modified discloses the method of claim 23, further comprising: registering the customized news document with a registry and providing access for other users to the customized news document via the registry (paragraph 393, Wittke).

With respect to claim 68,

Wittke as modified discloses the method of claim 23, further comprising: crawling, using a web robot, news content documents hosted by a plurality of news source servers; fetching news content from the crawled news content documents; and indexing the fetched news content to produce indexed news content stored in the memory, wherein retrieving items of news content from memory comprises: searching the indexed news content based on the plurality of search queries to retrieve the items of news content (figures 1A, 1B, Miyasaka and Figure 3, Allen).

With respect to claim 31,

Wittke discloses a news aggregation server, comprising: a memory configured to store instructions and news content (figures 19 and 31); and a processing unit configured to execute the instructions in memory to: obtain a plurality of search queries

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from a user, create a customized news document including a plurality of personalized news sections (paragraph 260), with each news section being defined by a different one of the plurality of search queries, retrieve items of news content from the memory using the plurality of search queries (figure 19), receive an indication from the user specifying a manner of ranking news items within one of the plurality of personalized news sections, rank, based on the user specified manner of ranking news items selected items of news content of the retrieved items of news content in a ranked order and insert selected items of news content of the retrieved items of news content in the ranked order into the one of the plurality of the personalized news sections of the customized news document (paragraphs 281 and 325).

Wittke does not explicitly disclose the division of the document and the personalization in detail as claimed.

Miyasaka however teaches the division of the news document as claimed (column 13 lines 26 – 40). Furthermore, Allen teaches the personalization along with the aggregation of the news in paragraphs 52, 55 – 57.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art of data processing at the time of the present invention to combine the teachings of cited references because both the inventions are in the same field of personalizing aggregations of information. Furthermore, obtaining preferences of a recipient that include an indication of one or more preferred categories, a preferred presentation layout, and a preferred advertising category; obtaining content information having content in at least one of the preferred categories; and personalization with aggregation would provide the user with relevant

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information without the unnecessary information or advertisements (column 2 lines 25 – 34, Miyasaka). Furthermore the specified aggregation and personalization of Allen's method would give better accurate and efficient results to the user for the personalized news queried for (paragraphs 52, 55 – 57, Allen).

With respect to claim 39,

Wittke discloses a system for creating a customized news document, comprising: means for receiving a plurality of search queries from a user (figures 2 and 5, paragraphs 201 – 202, Wittke); means for creating a customized news document including a plurality of personalized news sections (paragraph 260, Wittke), with each news section being defined by a different one of the plurality of search queries; means for receiving an indication from the user specifying a number of news items to include in at least one of the plurality of personalized news sections means for retrieving items of news content from a plurality of sources of items of news content using the plurality of search queries (figure 19, Wittke); and means for inserting selected items of news content of the retrieved items of news content corresponding the specified number of news items into the at least one of the plurality of the personalized news sections of the customized news document (paragraphs 281 and 325, Wittke).

Wittke does not explicitly disclose the division of the document and the personalization in detail as claimed.

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Miyasaka however teaches the division of the news document as claimed (column 13 lines 26 – 40). Furthermore, Allen teaches the personalization along with the aggregation of the news in paragraphs 52, 55 – 57.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art of data processing at the time of the present invention to combine the teachings of cited references because both the inventions are in the same field of personalizing aggregations of information.

Furthermore, obtaining preferences of a recipient that include an indication of one or more preferred categories, a preferred presentation layout, and a preferred advertising category; obtaining content information having content in at least one of the preferred categories; and personalization with aggregation would provide the user with relevant information without the unnecessary information or advertisements (column 2 lines 25 – 34, Miyasaka). Furthermore the specified aggregation and personalization of Allen's method would give better accurate and efficient results to the user for the personalized news queried for (paragraphs 52, 55 – 57, Allen).

With respect to claim 40,

Wittke discloses a method, comprising: dividing a news document into a plurality of news sections; receiving a first search query and a second search query, receiving an indication from a user specifying a manner of ranking news items within a first section of the plurality of news sections; searching news content based on the first search query to obtain a first set of related news items (paragraph 260); ranking, based on the user specified manner of ranking news items, the first set of related news items

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in a ranked order searching the news content based on the second search query to obtain a second set of related news items (figures 2 and 5, paragraphs 201 – 202); populating the first news section of the plurality of news sections with the first set of related news items (figure 19); and populating a second news section of the plurality of news sections with the second set of related news items (paragraphs 281 and 325).

Wittke does not explicitly disclose the division of the document and the personalization in detail as claimed.

Miyasaka however teaches the division of the news document as claimed (column 13 lines 26 – 40). Furthermore, Allen teaches the personalization along with the aggregation of the news in paragraphs 52, 55 – 57.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art of data processing at the time of the present invention to combine the teachings of cited references because both the inventions are in the same field of personalizing aggregations of information. Furthermore, obtaining preferences of a recipient that include an indication of one or more preferred categories, a preferred presentation layout, and a preferred advertising category; obtaining content information having content in at least one of the preferred categories; and personalization with aggregation would provide the user with relevant information without the unnecessary information or advertisements (column 2 lines 25 – 34, Miyasaka). Furthermore the specified aggregation and personalization of Allen's method would give better accurate and efficient results to the user for the personalized news queried for (paragraphs 52, 55 – 57, Allen).

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7. Claims 41 – 45, 47 – 53 are rejected under the same rationale given for claim 40.

The citations of the elements claimed and taught are listed below.

With respect to claim 41,

Wittke as modified discloses method of claim 40, wherein the first and second search queries are received from a user via a network (figure 43 and paragraph 335, Wittke).

With respect to claim 42,

Wittke as modified discloses method of claim 40, wherein the first and second search queries are selected by a user from a list of search queries (figure 52, paragraphs 371 and 378, Wittke).

With respect to claim 43,

Wittke as modified discloses method of claim 42, wherein the list of search queries comprises search queries previously used by the user to search the news content (paragraphs 369 – 370, Wittke).

With respect to claim 44,

Wittke as modified discloses method of claim 40, further comprising: receiving an indication from a user specifying a number of news items the first news section, wherein

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populating the first news section comprises obtaining the number of news items from the first set of related news items (paragraph 342, Wittke).

With respect to claim 45,

Wittke as modified discloses method of claim 40, further comprising: receiving an indication from a user specifying one or more preferences for certain kinds of news sources for the news content, wherein searching the news content based on the first search query is further based on the one or more preferences (figure 14A, paragraph 280, Wittke).

With respect to claim 47,

Wittke as modified discloses method of claim 40, wherein ranking based on the user specified manner of ranking news items the first set of related news items in a ranked order comprises: receiving selected keywords from the user; and boosting selected news items of the first set of related news items higher in the rank order when the selected news items contain one or more of the keywords (paragraphs 373 – 378, Wittke).

With respect to claim 48,

Wittke as modified discloses method of claim 40, further comprising: receiving an indication from a user specifying preferences for journalists who author news items of the news content, wherein searching the news content based on the first search query

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is further based on the user-specified preferences for journalists (paragraphs 347 – 350, Wittke).

With respect to claim 49,

Wittke as modified discloses method of claim 40, further comprising: receiving an indication from a user specifying preferences for genres of news among the news content, wherein searching the news content based on the first search query is further based on the user specified preferences for genres of news (figure 14A, paragraph 280, Wittke).

With respect to claim 50,

Wittke as modified discloses method of claim 40, further comprising: deleting the first news section from the news document based on an instruction received from a user (paragraph 393, Wittke).

With respect to claim 51,

Wittke as modified discloses method of claim 40, further comprising: labeling, on the news document, the first news section with a first label related to the first search query (figure 44 and paragraph 340, Wittke).

With respect to claim 52,

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Wittke as modified discloses method of claim 51, further comprising: labeling, on the news document, the second news section with a second label related to the second search query (paragraph 339, Wittke).

With respect to claim 53,

Wittke as modified discloses method of claim 40, wherein the first and second search queries are received from a user and further comprising: providing the news document to the user (figures 19 and 20, paragraph 291, Wittke).

With respect to claim 54,

Wittke discloses a method, comprising: aggregating news content from a plurality of news source servers; dividing a web page into a plurality of news sections; receiving a personalized search query from a user (paragraph 260); receiving an indication from the user specifying a number of news items to include in the first news section; searching the aggregated news content based on the personalized search query to obtain a first set of related news items (figure 19); and populating only a first news section of the plurality of news sections of the web page with a number of the first set of related news items corresponding to the user specified number of news items (paragraphs 281 and 325).

Wittke does not explicitly disclose the division of the document and the personalization in detail as claimed.

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Miyasaka however teaches the division of the news document as claimed (column 13 lines 26 – 40). Furthermore, Allen teaches the personalization along with the aggregation of the news in paragraphs 52, 55 – 57.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art of data processing at the time of the present invention to combine the teachings of cited references because both the inventions are in the same field of personalizing aggregations of information. Furthermore, obtaining preferences of a recipient that include an indication of one or more preferred categories, a preferred presentation layout, and a preferred advertising category; obtaining content information having content in at least one of the preferred categories; and personalization with aggregation would provide the user with relevant information without the unnecessary information or advertisements (column 2 lines 25 – 34, Miyasaka). Furthermore the specified aggregation and personalization of Allen's method would give better accurate and efficient results to the user for the personalized news queried for (paragraphs 52, 55 – 57, Allen).

8. Claims 55 – 63 are rejected under the same rationale given for claim 54. The citations of the elements claimed and taught are listed below.

With respect to claim 55,

Wittke as modified discloses the method of claim 54, wherein the personalized search query is received from the user via a network (figure 43 and paragraph 335, Wittke).

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With respect to claim 56,

Wittke as modified discloses the method of claim 54, wherein the personalized search query is selected by the user from a list of search queries (figure 52, paragraphs 371 and 378, Wittke).

With respect to claim 57,

Wittke as modified discloses the method of claim 56, wherein the list of search queries comprises search queries previously used by the user to search the news content (paragraphs 369 – 370, Wittke).

With respect to claim 58,

Wittke as modified discloses the method of claim 54, further comprising: receiving an indication from the user specifying one or more preferences for certain kinds of news sources for the news content, wherein searching the news content based on the personalized search query is further based on the one or more preferences (paragraph 342, Wittke).

With respect to claim 59,

Wittke as modified discloses the method of claim 54, further comprising: receiving an indication from the user that specifies a manner for ranking news content within the first news section; and ranking news items of the first set of related news

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items in a rank order based on the specified manner for ranking (paragraphs 373 – 378, Wittke).

With respect to claim 60,

Wittke as modified discloses the method of claim 54, further comprising:
receiving selected keywords from the user; and ranking selected news items of the first set of related news items based on the selected keywords (paragraphs 347 – 350, Wittke).

With respect to claim 61,

Wittke as modified discloses the method of claim 54, further comprising:
receiving an indication from the user specifying preferences for journalists who author news items of the news content, wherein searching the news content based on the personalized search query is further based on the user-specified preferences for journalists (paragraphs 347 – 350, Wittke).

With respect to claim 62,

Wittke as modified discloses the method of claim 54, further comprising:
receiving an indication from the user specifying preferences for genres of news among the news content, wherein searching the news content based on the personalized search query is further based on the user specified preferences for genres of news (figure 14A, paragraph 280, Wittke).

With respect to claim 63,

Wittke as modified discloses the method of claim 54, further comprising:
providing the web page to the user (figures 19 and 20, paragraph 291, Wittke).

With respect to claim 64,

Wittke discloses a method, comprising: crawling, using a web robot, news content documents hosted by a plurality of news source servers; fetching news content from the crawled news content documents (paragraph 260); indexing the fetched news content to produce indexed news content; dividing a news document into a plurality of news sections; receiving a first user search query (figure 19); searching the indexed news content based on the first user search query to obtain a first set of related news items; and populating only a first news section of the plurality of news sections of the news document with the first set of related news items (paragraphs 281 and 325).

Wittke does not explicitly disclose the division of the document and the personalization in detail as claimed.

Miyasaka however teaches the division of the news document as claimed (column 13 lines 26 – 40). Furthermore, Allen teaches the personalization along with the aggregation of the news in paragraphs 52, 55 – 57.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art of data processing at the time of the present invention to combine the teachings of cited references because both the inventions are in the same field of personalizing aggregations of information.

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Furthermore, obtaining preferences of a recipient that include an indication of one or more preferred categories, a preferred presentation layout, and a preferred advertising category; obtaining content information having content in at least one of the preferred categories; and personalization with aggregation would provide the user with relevant information without the unnecessary information or advertisements (column 2 lines 25 – 34, Miyasaka). Furthermore the specified aggregation and personalization of Allen's method would give better accurate and efficient results to the user for the personalized news queried for (paragraphs 52, 55 – 57, Allen).

9. Claims 65 – 67 are rejected under the same rationale given for claim 40. The citations of the elements claimed and taught are listed below.

With respect to claim 65,

Wittke as modified discloses the method of claim 64, wherein the news document comprises a web page (paragraphs 369 – 370, Wittke).

With respect to claim 66,

Wittke as modified discloses the method of claim 64, further comprising: obtaining a second set of related news items from the fetched news content; and populating a second news section of the plurality of news sections of the news document with the second set of related news items, wherein the second news section is different than the first news section (figures 1A, 1B, Miyasaka and Figure 3, Allen).

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With respect to claim 67,

Wittke as modified discloses the method of claim 64, further comprising: receiving a second user search query; searching the indexed news content based on the second user search query to obtain a second set of related news items; and populating only a second news section of the plurality of news sections of the news document with the second set of related news items (figures 1A, 1B, Miyasaka and Figure 3, Allen).

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Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Navneet K. Ahluwalia whose telephone number is 571-272-5636.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Alam T. Hosain can be reached on 571-272-3978. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Navneet K. Ahluwalia
Examiner
Art Unit 2166

Dated: 09/28/2007



HOSAIN ALAM
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER